

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-22, 24-27, and 29-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,445,904 to Middeke in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,754,908 to Medvinsky. In this reply, claims 1, 6, 20, 21, 25, 26, and 34 have been amended to place the application in better condition for appeal. Independent claims 1, 6, 20, 21, 25, and 26 have been amended to include detecting a problem with a media distribution device and with a second device not physically connected to the media distribution device. Middeke discloses detecting a performance problem with the media distribution device, but not detecting a performance problem with a second device not physically connected to the media distribution device. Medvinsky fails to overcome the deficiencies of Middeke. Middeke in view of Medvinsky also fails to disclose each and every feature of dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 8-10, 12-19, 22, 24, 27, and 29-36 at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1, 6, 20, 21, 25, or 26. Moreover, these claims recite additional novel features.

These amendments put the application in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is invited to telephone the undersigned. Applicants do not believe that additional fees are due, but if the Commissioner believes additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

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04/09/2009
Date